

**SITUATION REPORT NO. 10**  
**INCIDENT NO. 2000-016**  
**DATE: June 19, 2000      TIME: 4:00 p.m.**

**TO:** Governor Edward T. Schafer  
State Capitol  
Bismarck, N.D. 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Flooding – Due to a series of thunderstorms since June 12 and high water tables, resulting from eight years of consecutive flooding.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No change from previous report.
3. DAMAGES: The Turtle River crested at 18 feet, on June 17 at Manvel, and is currently at 17 feet. The Grand Forks Emergency Operations Center could not find evidence of a suspected log jam that might attribute for the backwater in the Manvel area. They now suspect that a county ditch north of Manvel was draining water from the west into the Turtle River as the reason for the backwater in the area. Breakouts and overland flooding will continue for the next several days as the crest moves past Manvel towards the Red River. Water continues to recede in the Gilby and Mekinock areas.

Eddy County Emergency Management indicates that there is further road damage assessed as the water has receded. They anticipate having some cost estimates by June 19.

Pierce County Emergency Management indicates road damages, washouts, gravel washes and damages to individual homes. There are reports of basements collapsing and water in the basements. The county has received from three inches to six inches of rain since June 12 and is still compiling preliminary damage estimates.

Barnes County Emergency Management indicates that the run off from the rains of last week is entering Lake Ashtabula. Current inflows are 3080 CFS from Cooperstown and 283 CFS from Baldhill Creek, giving 3363 CFS inflows. Current discharge is 2300 CFS. This brings the river level to 11.6 feet at Valley City. Flood stage is 13 feet. The low areas of parks and Bjornson Golf Course are flooding. Dam level is at 1265.3 with full pool at 1266. The water table is still very high. Approximately 30 septic systems have failed since last fall. At least seven homes in Valley City are having landslide damage.

Wells County Emergency Management indicates that American Red Cross personnel made preliminary damage assessments in Bowden. The Red Cross assessments disclosed there were 72 of 94 homes having water problems in their basements. Two basements have collapsed with two others near collapse. Inspections in Hurdsfield indicate 16 of 60 homes having basement water problems. The Wells County Road Department indicate that areas of Wells County south of N.D.15 to the Kidder County line and from East Sheridan County to the West Foster County line are totally inundated. Water is still flowing over many roads, making a detailed assessment impossible at this time.

The Grand Forks Office of the National Weather Service (NWS) indicated today that severe thunderstorms are possible in southeastern North Dakota that could produce dime size hail, damaging winds, isolated tornadoes and up to two inches of rain. Because of the possibility of

large amounts of rain the NWS in Grand Forks is continuing a flash flood watch tonight and Tuesday for people in the following counties: Cass, Sargent, Griggs, Richland, Ransom, Barnes, Traill, Eddy, Grand Forks, Nelson, Pembina, Towner, Benson, Walsh, Cavalier, Ramsey and Steele. Recent rains have saturated the top soil in many locations across eastern North Dakota. Rivers are currently running at high levels across much of eastern North Dakota. Another potent weather system is taking shape in the Pacific Northwest. This system has the potential to produce localized areas of up to three inches of rainfall through Tuesday. Rainfalls of this amount could aggravate ongoing flooding problems.

4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTION: The American Red Cross has indicated as of June 18 that there have been a total of 3451 meals served and issued 112 clean up kits in the affected areas. Their damage assessments shows that a total of 169 dwellings have suffered major to minor damage as a result of the rains of last week. There have been a total of 101 volunteers at a budgeted expense to date of \$240,000. Fifteen families continue to be sheltered in motels with a total of 49 room days at this point. They project that approximately 100 families will be seeking assistance.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS: The Pierce County Board of Commissioners has declared an emergency because of flood related problems.

The McHenry Board of County Commissioners has declared an emergency because of flood related problems.

The Bantry Board of Commissioners has declared an emergency on June 16 because of excessive run off and torrential rains occurring in May and June.

During the current week, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) officials are arriving to assist state officials in conducting a preliminary damage assessment.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: With the exception of continuing technical support, no additional assistance has been requested.

8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: Officials and staff representing the N.D. State Water Commission, N.D. Department of Transportation, N.D. Highway Patrol, the Governor's Office, N.D. Department of Human Services, the state's Congressional delegation, Federal Emergency Management and N.D. Emergency Management have been in the impacted area at various times.

9. OTHER: Additional reports will follow as information on damages and impacts become available.

Situation Reports published by North Dakota Emergency Management are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is: <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

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Douglas C. Friez, State Director